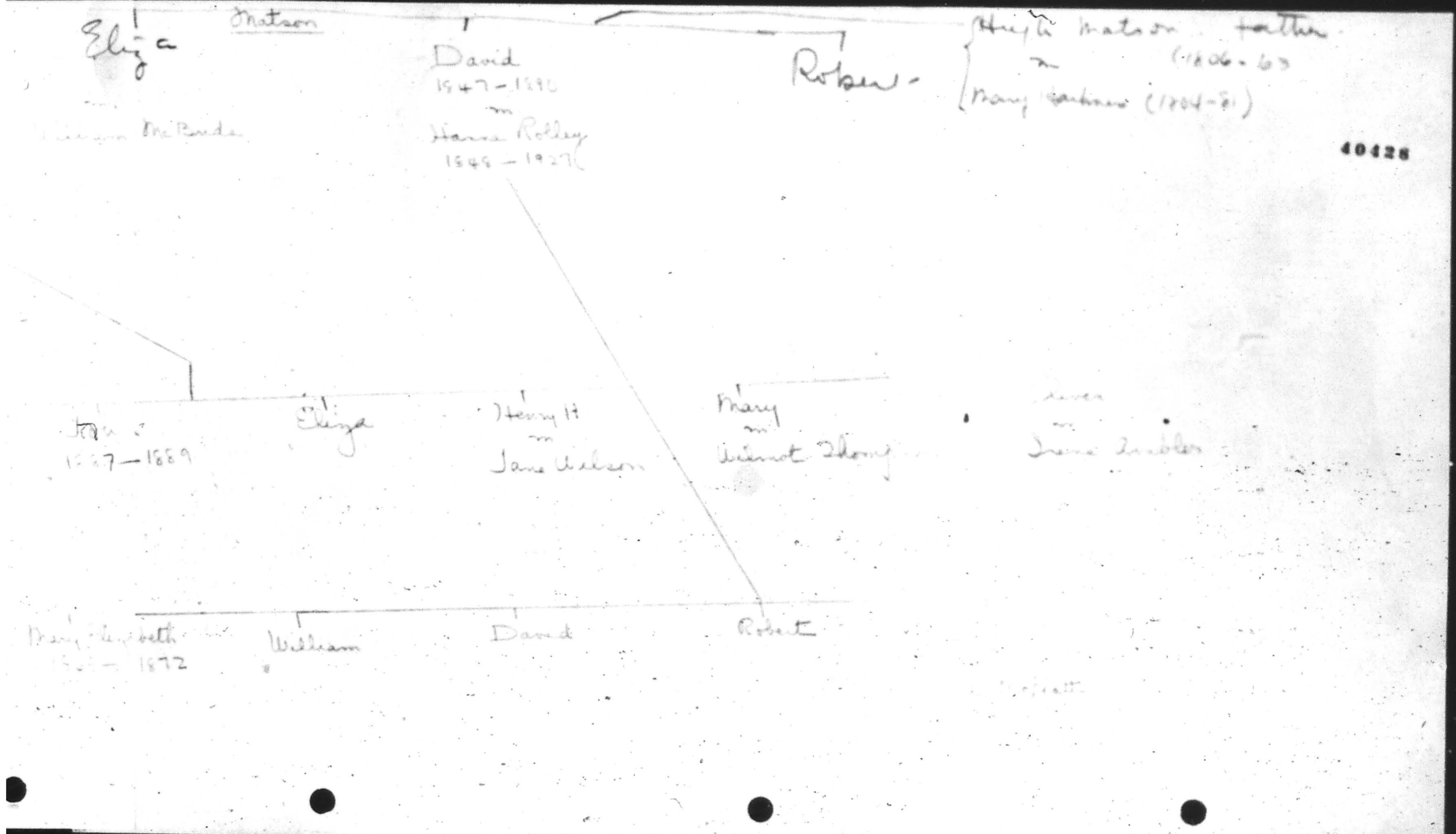
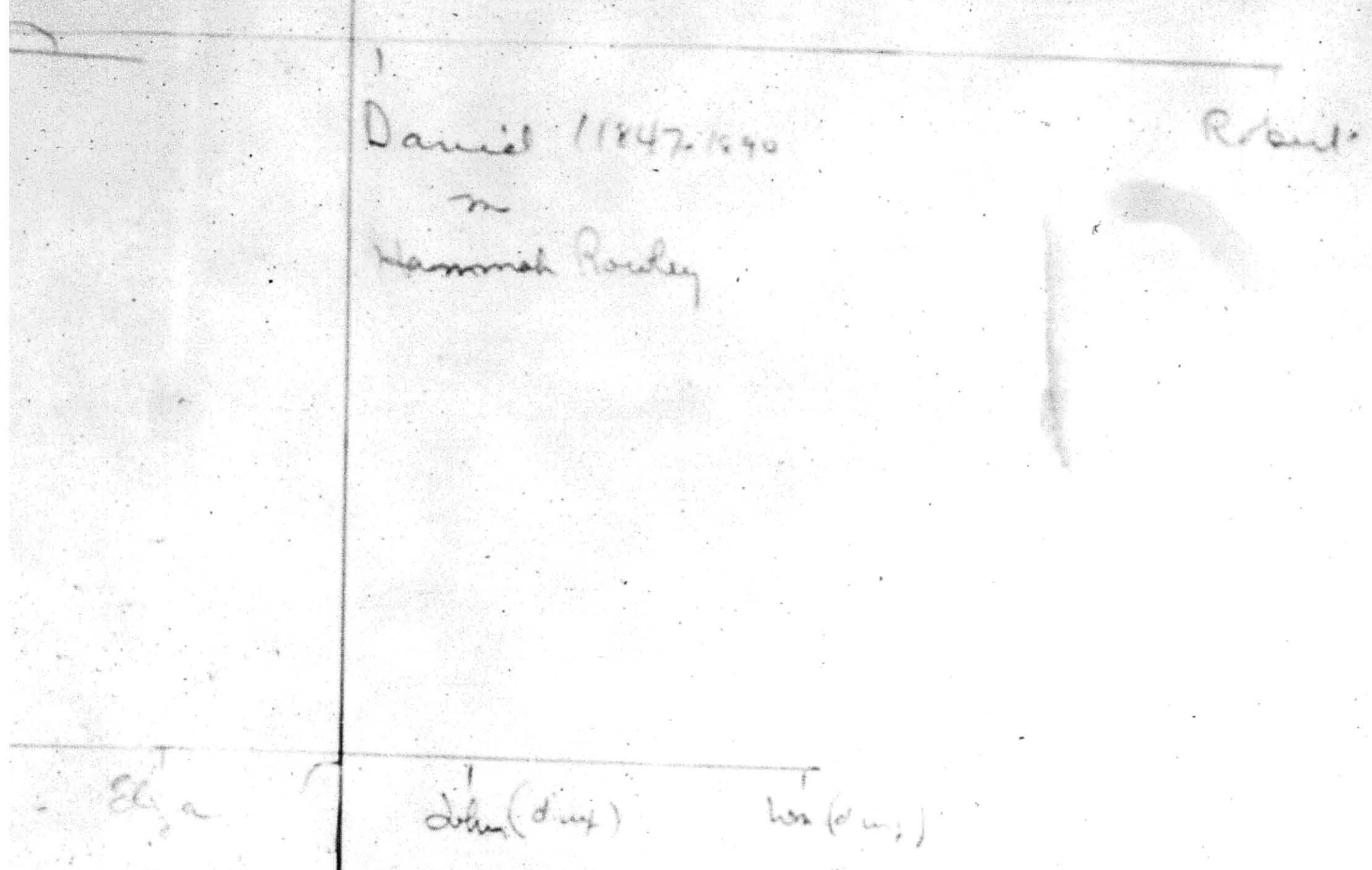
MATSON

Eliza
Matson
David
1847 – 1890
m
Hanna Rolley
1848 – 1927
Robert
Hugh Matson father
m (1806 – 63
Mary [illegible] (1804 – 81)
[illegible] McBride
[illegible]
1837 – 1889
Eliza
Henry H
m
Jane Wilson
Mary
m
Wilmot Thorp
[illegible]
m
Irene Tabler
Mary Elizabeth
[illegible] – 1872
William
David
Robert

40428

40429


Daniel (1847-1840
m
Hannah Rowley
Robert
Eliza
John (dies)
Lois (dies)

TT

J.F.
T.T.

40130

Watson file

Information from Ollie Watson.

FATHER McSPIRITT CURES

Related by Mrs. Cornelius Murphy (née Ann Trainor) dtr. of Michael Trainor. (now Gore Parish)

1. Recalls her mother apparently on deathbed surrounded by weeping children. Mrs. Trainor had been failing in health for sometime & it appeared that her time had come. Father McSpiritt was sent for & arrived. He stated that Mrs. Trainor would recover. His promise came true. She recovered in brief time, went about her household duties in best of health & lived many years.

2. A cousin of Michael Trainor (King parish) named McGeary, had moved to New Jersey, U.S.A. He became interested in the case of a female school teacher who had become crippled to such an extent that she used two crutches & was pronounced incurable by physicians of the day. McGeary told her of Father McSpiritt & induced her to come to Canada to see him. They first arrived at Trainor home in King. From there, they drove to The Gore to see Father McSpiritt. When she left King for New Jersey a few days later she had discarded the crutches. This teacher (a protestant) became a R.C. convert through the cure.

cap

J.F. T.T.

40431

Information from Ollie Metson.

Related by Mrs. John Francis Byrne, dtr. of Michael Murphy.

3. Her mother had what in those early days was commonly called the 'falling sickness', so named because the person afflicted would fall face forward to the ground with symptoms warning in time to grasp a seat. Mrs. Murphy was mother of a large family & her constant dread was taking a fall while carrying a baby which might result in injury to it. She told Father McSpiritt of this perpetual dread & asked his aid. He told her to have no further fear for she would never again have an attack of 'falling sickness'. She never had.

Related by Jas. Byrne.

4. A neighbor, Mrs. Myers had bad outer goitre, & went to Father McSpiritt. She was non-Catholic. He merely imposed the penalty of no meat on Friday. The goitre ceased troubling her, but some years later on breaking pledge, the goitre trouble returned.

5. Thos. Fenwick, Protestant, subject to fits, was induced by Protestant & R.C. neighbours, alike to seek the aid of

J.F.
T.T.

Information from Ollie Watson.   40432

Father McSpiritt. He was cured & lived to age eighty.

Related by Mrs. Wm. Kennedy, formerly Sarah Ann Doherty, dtr. of Michael Doherty.

6. She was intimate with Father McSpiritt's housekeeper (Mrs. Fox), who told her that the strangest cure she had seen while at the parish house was that of a woman who entered on two crutches. When leaving she reached the crutches to Mrs. Fox, stating that she had no further use for them.

Related by Cornelius Murphy.

7. John McCarthy -- head disease -- head covered with sores -- complete loss of hair. Went to Father McSpiritt. Sores healed -- hair grew.

Related by Dan Prendergast.

8. John Harrison -- thresher -- heavy engine wheel which smashed off in moving, crushing Harrison's leg between it & frozen ground -- (autumn). So badly mangled that doctors declared bone knitting impossible & wanted to amputate. Father McSpiritt was brought. He stated that Harrison's leg would become sound.

7

TT
40433

J.F.
T.T.

Information from Ollie Watson.

Harrison later participated in foot races.

9 & 10. Dan also recalls two cases of 'fit' cures which came under his notice -- a Carberry girl of Tullamore & a Hooper girl of same locality.

Related by ~~W~~ Len Wiley -- re himself.

11. He cared for last days of an uncle afflicted with cancer, & after uncle's death found himself in bad condition. In autumn he had blood poison, neuralgia & terrific head pains. Dr. Savage of Weston gave him little or no hope. Anthony Prendergast advised him to see Father McSpiritt, who announced his speedy recovery. Dr. Savage arrived a few days later, expressed surprise at improved condition, & ascertained that Father McSpiritt had been consulted, & advised continuance of medicine. Savage had office two days a week in Woodbridge & pronounced Wiley fit to meet him there, on next trip to stopping place at Tom Hasty's hotel. Wiley went & Dr. Savage drove up shortly after. He examined Wiley & remarked, "if not for Father McSpiritt you would not be here."

The penance imposed in this case, was 'no Sunday shaves'. Wiley at age seventy six has never broken that pledge.

F

TT

J.F.
T.T.

40434

Information from Ollie Watson.

12. In later years Wiley was troubled with what was known as 'felon' of the thumb, causing extreme pain & debarring him from manual labor. His sister helped dress him on a Sunday morning & he went to Wildfield. After mass Father McSpiritt outside the church, spied the thumb dressing, felt it & announced that it would be better shortly. Wiley was ploughing the next morning, much to the amazement of his protestant hired man -- a fellow named Kitchin.

// cap.

Related by Mrs. Patrick Keenahan of Albion -- formerly Bridget O'Donnell of The Gore (one time housekeeper for Father McSpiritt).

13. Her brother aged three contracted unknown ailment with complete loss of power of lower limbs. Was carried on a pillow. Case no close to doctors. Taken to Father McSpiritt. Wee fellow strove to show him something & the priest thought he meant the new shirt. The mother explained he meant the disease spots on his little hands. The priest said he would soon have no spots & would be walking about.

There was a gradual but complete recovery. This little chap lived to see seventy & been a father of nine children.

40435

J.F.
T.T.

Information from Ollie Watson.

14. Another brother Jeremiah at age nineteen, was apparently dying of what was then called inflammation of lungs. Given up by Doctors Bonner & Stewart. Father McSpiritt was brought & assured his recovery. He lived to become the father of fifteen.

15. Bridget (herself) at age fifteen or sixteen, unknown malady, complete loss of appetite & subsequent bodily wastage. Went to Father McSpiritt who assured her that she would regain appetite & flesh. Speedy recovery.

Related by Wm. Horan, son of Martin Horan, onetime Claireville hotelkeeper.

16. As a little fellow he recalled an elderly man wearing colored goggles almost totally blind, arriving with wife at hotel on way to Father McSpiritt. Wm. was sent as guide. They arrived back at hotel for supper. The man in getting out of buggy had every movement guided. Later when they were departing for Weston, the man could see sufficiently to get into vehicle without help.

TT

J.F.
T.T.

Information from Ollie Watson.

40436

Related by John Marshall of Albion re himself.

17. Was completely broken down in health & unable to eat, in fact forbidden to partake of ordinary food by Dr. Bonner of Bolton who had him on milk diet. On last trip to Bonner, after getting horse from Bolton hotel stable he turned in direction opposite from home & his wife asked where he was going. He said to Father McSpiritt. He drove to The Gore in cutter. Father McSpiritt was just carrying in an armful of wood & jovially inquired the reason of the visit. Marshall explained his plight. The priest told him to 'go home & eat the best his house afforded & he would soon be sound'. Marshall was about his work in a few days & never again troubled by what doctors had diagnosed as 'indigestion'. He is today hale & hearty though far beyond the alloted span of three score and ten.

Writer's note:-- I attach the utmost importance to this statement because of my intimate knowledge of John Marshall, whom I have known since my earliest boyhood. John is & always has been absolutely dependable in each & every statement he makes.

18. Related by Mrs. Wm. Horan (née Winnie Egan) (Albion)

At age eleven she had diphtheria & managed to survive the disease itself, but external remedies

F

V.F.

Information from Ollie Watson. 40437

applied to throat with blistering effect caused infection. The flesh started to decay & infection penetrated to jaw-bone. A portion of flesh hung sacklike. She was taken to Father McSpiritt at Colgan. He jokingly told the child that the hanging flesh would get like a big bag much to her alarm. He then told her seriously to have no fear as she would recover completely. The healing process commenced from that date & in due time all effects disappeared.

Writer's note:-- To my personal knowledge Winnie Egan is absolutely reliable.

19. Related by Mrs. McVean (Gore) formerly a Kehoe of King, re herself.

In girlhood had eczema on hands. Went to Father McSpiritt who assured her that hands would be cleared of trouble in short time. Eczema disappeared in few days & never returned.

TT J.F.
T.T.

40438

Information from Ollie Matson.

This is first list. It is a commencement, & sufficient interest has been aroused through my inquiry to start several tracing up names & cures of which they had not sufficient knowledge to give me requisite details. Should have results of these inquiries this week. As usual the work is abominably slow. An inquiry of this nature instituted a quarter century ago when so many old people of Father McSpiritt's time were still alive would doubtless have produced some startling information.

Am sticking closely to this one line of work, but my thoughts keep straying to a vanished hamlet which I believe your investigators overlooked -- church, graveyard, store, sawmill, etc. I interviewed one man of clear memory, aged 88, born beside this site, & he cannot recall anything but graveyard. It would seem therefore that the place must have existed far earlier than most other hamlets. I know who plowed over the graveyard (the rotted fence had then almost vanished), & that was certainly long ago. Meanwhile in my own skull lurks a foggy memory of a name I fancy I heard my parents apply to the place, which was not active even in their early days. Will see you about it when finished with Father McSpiritt.

TT

Matson

40439

Information from Ollie Matson.

Father McSpiritt Cures.

Related by Jas. Grogan -- Albion Parish.

1. His cousin, Mary Dolan, of Dexter, Mich. journeyed back to the parish of her ancestors (Albion) seeking a cure for what the American doctors termed 'falling sickness' & pronounced so far advanced as to be incurable. Grogan's conveyed her to Father McSpiritt. She returned to Michigan cured.

2. Chas. McLaughlin, son of Jas. McLaughlin & grandson of pioneer Chas. McLaughlin (Crown Deed of farm enclosed by 30 sideline -- 7th line -- & townline of Albion) returned to ancestral parish from Williamsport, Penn. U.S.A. He got off train at Palgrave using a cane & a crutch. Was met by Jas. Grogan (Grogan farm was then E. half lot 29, con. 6-7th line -- 1 mile above Palgrave) Grogan drove McLaughlin to Father McSpiritt (then in Gore parish). Crutch and cane were left with Father Mac. The couple returned to Grogan farm. That night Jim Grogan & Charles McLaughlin walked from farm to Palgrave.

Related by Thos. Wallace -- Albion parish.

1. Jno. Crisp (Protestant -- Ballycroy) married to Bridget Morrison (Catholic) woman apparently on deathbed asked for Father McSpiritt. Husband threatened bodil harm to priest if he came. A neighbour, Dinny Moonan went to Colgan (Adjala

Information from Ollie Watson.

Parish) for Father McSpiritt. Others met them returning with priest to advise of danger from Crisp & advise priest to turn back. He quietly stated that Crisp would not harm him & continued to the home where he met no resistance & stated woman would recover. She did & Crisp became convert, baptized in St. John's (Albion).

2. Lizzie Wilson (vague details in your folder -- Wallace being a neighbour certifies definitely) -- fits -- cured -- penalty -- no meat on Friday -- broke pledge at Granny Palmer's (a fifth line neighbor) -- took immediate fit. Recured by Father McSpiritt -- later broke pledge again -- died.

Related by Amy Prendergast -- Gore Parish.

1. A neighbour girl -- Minnie Hooper -- subject to fits-- Protestant -- taken by Mrs. Anthony Prendergast to Father Mac -- definite cure.

Related by Mrs. Jno. Curran -- Albion Parish.

1. Herself in girlhood-- troubled with goitre -- had faith in Father McSpiritt of Colgan -- asked to go there with her father when he was taking wool to Keenansville Mills. Father McSpiritt received her cordially & inquired what he could do. She stated her ailment & her faith. "You firmly believe I can cure you?" queried the priest musingly. "I do", was the firm

Information from Ollie Watson.

reply. "Your faith is not in vain", was the priest's rejoinder. Mrs. Curran though now advanced in years has never since been troubled with goitre.

2. Mrs. Curran recalls an episode but unfortunately cannot recall the name of woman cured. She was cripple using crutches & was conveyed to Father McSpiritt whe~~re~~n he was in Caledon (St. Cornelius) A neighbor woman accompanied the cripple & the two were ushered in. Father McSpiritt laid a book that he had been reading on the table & took a seat by the wall. After listening to their story, he carelessly said. "Fetch me that book from the table." The neighbor woman naturally arose to do his bidding. "Not you", said the priest somewhat sharply. "Let your crippled friend leave her crutches by her chair & fetch me that book". The crippled woman naturally sat motionless & greatly amazed at this seemingly impossible command. "Fetch it", commanded the priest sharply. She complied. "Did you need crutches to do that?" "No." "nor will you need them in the future", the priest assured her.

Related by Richard Doherty.

1. His wife Sarah Horan, when a young woman injured a foot, breaking a bone. Two doctors in consultation announced that to leave it meant her crippling & to remove it meant the same for no one could walk

Information from Ollie Watson.

natural with it missing. Father Mac listening quietly to this discouraging report remarked that if they removed the bone the woman would walk as well as ever. The operation was performed. Sarah Horan showed no effects in later life.

Dr. Wallace (of Lockton Wallaces) took the bone to Toronto where it was preserved in alcohol as a curiosity to display to other surgeons of that day. At Mrs. Doherty's death this bone was interred with her body.

Related by Dennis Horan -- Albion Parish.

Note:-- Reference to this is made in your folder-- giving it now for more explicit details.

A schoolboy of No. 8 -- Albion -- Centerville-- Robert Lucy, son of Geo. Lucy of lot 23 -- 4th line -- above school -- subject to fits -- cured by Father McSpiritt -- penalty of no meat on Friday placed on mother -- few years later broke pledge -- same day the boy on way home from school stopped to play at mill pond on 4th line -- took fit & fell in -- drowned.

McKinnon, Wm Hamilton.

40443

1901 J.P. Caledon   Deputy Reeve 1905-06

One of the early players of football in Caledon E. No date mentioned. Their club, the Thistle Football Club, was in vicinity of Starve P.O.

#100

Albion Twp.

Matson

40444

✓ * Lot 22. Con 7. 1 March 1908 Robert Matson
E ½ 100 $3500

sw ¼ ✓ * Lot 23, Con 7, 22 May 1862 John Matson ~~sw ¼~~ Isaac
with nw ¼ $600

✓ * Lot 23, Con 7, 1 March 1887, Isaac Matson all
sw ¼ $4000

✓ * Lot 23, Con 7, 22 May 1862 John Matson nw ¼ - - -

✓ * Lot 23, Con 7, 1 March 1887, Isaac Matson all
nw ¼ $4000

✓ * Lot 22. Con. 8, 13 March 1915 John Matson E ½ 100
Married Bella Robinson's 2nd wife
$3300.

Robt

✓ * Lot 22, Con. 8, 1 March 1917, Robt. T. Matson
W ½ 100, $3500.

✓ * Lot 22, Con. 8, 1 March 1918, William Matson ~~N.E. ½~~
sw ¼ 100 ac. $3550.

Albion Twp.

40445

Matson.

married Macil Wilson
dau of Robt. E. Wilson
Albion
Con. 9 Lot 13

✓
*Lot 13 Con 6, 1 May 1931. John Hilliard H. Matson
and Macil M. Matson E½ 99ac $8500

✓
*Lot 24 Con 6. 10 Sept 1861 Robert Matson et al
E½. 100 ac £ 37/10

✓
*Lot 24 Con 6. 4 Dec 1869 Isaac Matson E½
Came from Caledon with his wife Jane
Wilson 3 sons & 2 daughters Buried at Boltonhaurel Hill. $1400

* Lot 24 Con 6. 7 Dec. 1916 Hugh H. Matson E½ Will
Living in Brampton in implement business

*Lot 24. Con 6 16 Jan. 1880 Isaac Matson pt E½ $25
Son of Isaac. Married Jennie Wilson of W½ Lot 25
~~Con 5~~ 1 son now living in Brampton.

*Lot 25. Con 6. 20 July 1860 Hugh Matson 100 ac $1000
Son of Isaac Matson [illegible] Con 6.

*Lot 25. Con 6. 1 March 1929 David Matson
Son of David Matson [illegible] married
a Miss Rolley 4 sons & 2 daughters N½ $10000
across Road Still works place

*Lot 26. Con 6. 1 March 1929 David Matson W½ 102
Lives [illegible] ac $10000

*Lot 20, Con 7. 13 March 1924 Robert Matson
and Hugh H. Matson pt E½ $1 etc
Robert Matson for many years Clerk of Albion Twp.

Albion Twp.

40446

Matson

* ✓ Lot 20. Con. 9. 15 Dec. 1927. John Matson.
E½ 100 ac $7425

Married Margaret Moffatt 1 son & 3 daughters She died & buried at Crawford Cem & He then married Bella Robinson.

* ✓ Lot 22. Con. 9. 10 March 1909. John Matson.
W½ 100 ac $3850.

40447

7

E L Watson

[illegible]

Matson

40448

df
dictaphone, 15 Jan. 1938

Interview with "Ollie" Matson, Esq., Palgrave.

Never was a Catholic Church in Palgrave.

Ollie remembers his fother telling him of the two old cemeteries on the 8th line, halfway down between Cedar Mills and Castlederg (?)

These churches called themselves - one called the other "Pride" and the other called that one "Poverty". They were Primitive and Wesleyan and had the little cemeteries.

Similarly on the 9th line, one Wesleyan and the other Primitive, just seven-eighths of a mile away. Each with a cemetery.

Bad feeling between the Primitives and Wesleyans on both roads.

40449 df

Interview with

Ollie Matson, Esq., Palgrave.

Ollie Matson taught school for fifteen years, about.

Taught school in Mons after the Armistice - Royal Athenian College. Troopers taking school work ~~instead of~~ in preference to drill. The text books came from London within two or three days of Armistice. History, Geography, Composition, arithmetic, business forms, etc.

Teachers were put to teaching. Classes would average 40, 50 and 60 to teacher. Classes were held in the forenoon and Ollie volunteered for night classes too. Would have about 5 and 20 at night. These classes were followed up until they covered the 3rd and 4th Divisions, until the troops left the continent.

Ollie had taught in Palgrave.

Abstainer.

Educated at Brampton High School and Palgrave Public School.

The Royal Athenian College had been the Red Cross

40450

headquarters for the Germans in Mons over for four years. It was an enormous place, had a great big courtyard, and the hospital _______ in the yard was in the shape of a red cross. I mean the ground in the courtyard was marked by a Red Cross in brilliant ~~xx~~ red.

40451

df

dictaphone, 15th Jan. 1958.

Interview with Mr. Ollie Matson.

"I think I can pick up a great big corkscrew thing used for testing butter and cheese, salt, The old dodge of women filling the middle of a crock of butter with salt."

df

40452 dictaphone, 15 Jan. 1938

Interview with "Ollie" Matson, Esq., Palgrave.

Write Letter to Mr. Matson about the old Methodist church, the United church in Palgrave, and he will get us the names of the old families - Presbyterian, Bamptist and Methodist, Catholic, etc. Will get their old photographs and particulars.

Let him do Palgrave and its churches, and cemeteries for us.

Show Mr. Bull the questionnaires you send him for each different thing.

Send this right away to him for churches, and send him each one separately as we get them. And pester him to death until we get the answers. Then, when the snow is gone, he will help us work the country outside.

Palgrave. son of Isaac

Robt. Matson.

40453

(Mr. Robt. Matson was ill, and his sister Mrs. Thompson said she would have him fill in a questionaire when he was able.)

Their grandfather Isaac Matson came from Co. Donegal, Ireland. Before he came, his oldest brother, John, a lad of 11 years, came over with a neighbour, Jas. Stewart, to look over the country. After a trip of seven weeks and three days in a sailing vessel, they landed at Quebec City on June 6th, 1852. He was followed by the rest of his family and they settled at Kilmanagh. They spent their first night (John Matson) coming up from Toronto at Wes. Dixon's fathers. A house was provided for them by the Calbacks (?). The farm where they eventually settled was on the east ½ of Lot 24, Con. 6. Now owned by Murray Boyce. If they had deeded their farm to him just a few days earlier or later, it would have been exactly one hundred years ~~from~~ in their possession.

John Matson settled on the west ½ of Lot 23. Con. 6. ~~The~~

A story was told of the Nelson side of the family, this being the Matson's grandmother's name, which they promised to give us in more detail on the questionaire. Their grandmother was the daughter of a man of wealth in Ireland, but fell in love with a servant on her father's place, and eloped with him to Canada, as a girl of sixteen. They settled and cleared a farm. When the young husband had to make the long trip into Toronto with his ox-team, the girl wife built roaring fires in the ~~chimney~~ fire-places to keep the wolves from coming down the chimneys. The husband always took a great iron sugar kettle with him on his ox-sled, and when the wolves got too close for comfort, he would turn the sugar kettle upside down over himself. There he would have to remain till some other settler came along and released him. They had iron kettles to bake bread in. The dough was mixed, dropped in the kettle, swung over the fire, tightly covered, and left to bake. Later they built stone ovens outside, that were considered a wonderful improvement.

Their grandmother had to stand and watch one of her precious little pigs that she had carefully raised being carried off in the arms of a bear one day. They let their pigs and cows feed on the browse in the woods, and in order to keep their cows from losing their cud, their grandmother always had to cut off a slice of bread each day and give it to them, in order that they should have some cooked food.

Mrs. Thompson thought that the oldest house was on the farm of Wm. Steele, made of logs morticed together at the corners.

file with Matson 40455

Story from MR. O. MATSON, Palgrave, 31 March, 1933. MH

This would be about 35 years ago. There was a skeleton found by Isaac Matson. Sheriff Henderson was with him that afternoon. On Lot 30, $W\frac{1}{2}$, Con. 5, on the farm then owned by Lyons Wilson whose father had owned the property before him. The skeleton was found on the top of a hill following a storm. Wilson stated that he had never heard his father speak of a death that would explain it. But they had heard a story that one of the original surveying parties had lost a man in that locality.

reg. bou

Dr. Stewart, then of Bolton, and later of Church St., Toronto, stated that in his opinion it was not an Indian skeleton.

The skeleton was complete and in a good state of preservation. It was taken by Dr. Stewart. I don't know whether it would stand today in Dr. Stewart's residence or not.

Sheriff Henderson has this [illegible] — [illegible] has asked him about it and he can't say anything about it

[illegible] Sr.

4,

40456 Notes taken
Sept. 17th,
1932.

OGH.

From Mr. Matson. Palgrave

Rob

NOTE

Domestic Life.

There were coal-oil lamps in use 65 years ago, but even then many people used candles. They raised their own beef, melted down the tallow, and ran the candles into molds. "Many a time I have seen my mother making candles."

~~Write John Goodfellow at Macville, for history of the Goodfellows.~~

Lockton. The famous Fight at Lockton. (Miss Davidson has this story, but here is a variation) In this fight over a girl, the whole community took sides. Preparations lasted for a long time, it became a kind of feud, with everyone going about on edge, ready to fight at a moment's notice. Taylor's mother, who was an old woman at the time was terribly anxious that her son should win, so she fed him raw beef, ~~xx~~ saw that he got proper sleep, and made him go through strenuous exercises in preparation for the coming struggle. Friends brought their shillelaghs on the great day, ready for a free-for-all. A man named Barnby kept a hotel at Lockton where this fight was to take place, and his two little boys were eager to see it. The father however, sent them away back, but they crawled back on hands and knees until they were in a position to see. There was no prosecution, the doctor said

. Matson. 40437 Notes,
17 Sept. 1932.

Squier
he died from a heart attack. Mrs. Thompson said her mother was a very intimate friend of the girl in the case, and that Taylor did not marry the girl.

The only ~~INDIAN~~ relics of the early days they ever found were deer antlers. They found these perfectly preserved, when digging drains on their farm.

Palgrave

Le

Post-Office.

Mr. Matson's uncle Robert Matson built a hotel and had the first post-office in a little log-house in his orchard which was still standing last year. This was on the east ½ of Lot 24, Con 6. The post- office then crept up the road, being moved a number of times.

Palgrave

When the first Railroad was built it was all done by hand, all the digging. The farmers brought their teams, and with dump carts and gravel boxes prepared the road bed. Some foreigners came at this time, and Palgrave, or rather the vicinity acquired some good citizens from among them, as they settled down here.

Palgrave

Stage-coach - TRANSPORTATION.

The stage ran from ~~Keenan~~ Keenansville (woollen mills) every morning to Bolton Station, after the narrow guage railway was built. It carried mail and passengers and merchandise.

Pioneer Days.

Wilson
Caldwell
Caledon

Mr. Matson's great- grandmother once found that she had no flint, or the wrong kind, and could not make a fire. Since it was very dangerous to be without a fire at night, on account of the wolves, she walked a long distance through the woods and borrowed a coal, carrying it carefully home in a covered pot, to light her fire again.

a difference to their self-esteem. They were among the numerous squatters.

Matson.

"Grandma" Shore was the only doctor in the neighborhood and no baby was born without "Grandma Shore" being sent for. Mrs. Matson's mother never had a doctor when any of her older children arrived, and felt quite satisfied to have only this old lady.

Perhaps mother of [illegible] now at Bol

See card for "STICKLEGS"

Matson.

"Sticklegs Hotel" on Lot 15, Con. 6. on what is now Hilliard Matson's farm. Albion Lot 15 Con 6. The old tavern keeper was known as "Sticklegs" because of a wooden peg he wore in place of a missing leg. He could kick right over the bar, and send a man flying with this "Personal weapon," and since there were rather high, old times in his hotel, this leg was often brought into play. Some of the young men of the community used to take a great delight in pretending to get into a fight for the fun of stirring him up, and getting him to separate them. Some of the Shores and others once decided it would be fun to smash up the place, so they went at it in grat style, breaking tables, smashing windows, etc. They went too far that time, and old "Sticklegs" was going to prosecute them. They all got together to settle the question of who should

Near Castlederg

willie Stewart

appraach "Sticklegs". Billy Stewart(?) was picked. So he went in, treated the old fellow, handed him a quarter and that was all there was to it. The affair was settled.

Matson.

Robt

There is a story of a "hotel built in a day," but it was really just a liquor shop, and consisted of two barrells with a board across. They used to buy liquor by the pail. Mr. Matson recalls riding three or four miles as a little boy and bringing back a pail of whiskey for the threshers, but they never got drunk. They porbably were working too hard, and they were pretty well accustomed to consuming a good deal. We used to get 5 gal. for a bushel of "tailings." All you had to do was to clean a bushel of your "tailings", take them up to Milburn's Mill, near the Catholic church near Centreville, now Frank Sullivan's farm, lot 23, Con. 3. Millburn's kept store, and had a regular distillery, as well as a mill. ~~(Their story can be obtained from the Sullivans, Mrs. Sullivan has the Albion post-office.)~~

Centreville

Matson. Temperance Act.

[illegible]

The passing of the temperance act in Caledon and Albion was a great surprise. In Albion there was a majority of four, so we had a recount. In the Palgrave ballot box we found 13 unmarked ballots. If they were

Matson.

40461
Notes:
17 Sept.1932.

counted as votes, then local option was defeated, so there was a legal fight. Lawyer Lee was the liquor men's lawyer. Mr. Matson was an official at the time and people thought he had no vote. He was dared to go up and ask the returning officer for a ballot. He was told he had no ballot, but he insisted that he should have a ballot, and got it. He voted local option, thus casting one of the deciding votes. This was one of the points the case was argued upon, but the Judge decided he had a perfect right to vote. The Judge asked him how he supposed 13 blank ballots got into the box, and he surmised that there being so much excitement, all these men had promised both sides to vote for them. They did not dare to stay away from the polls, and not vote at all, for they would get in wrong with both sides, so they went in folded up a piece of blank paper, and fooled both sides.

Mt Pleasant

Mt. Pleasant is up through the bush, past Lougheeds bush(Is this lot 16, Con. 6, or Lot 24, Con. 8) This was the location of a church, and has two cemetaries. Mrs. Thompson says it is the most beautiful spot in this section of the country, and should be photographed. The church building was sold to one of the Lindsays who moved it off and made farm buildings out of it.

Matson.

or Caledon

Star post-office was in Caledon, and was just kept in a house, no village.

Matson.

Caldwell
Caledon

Caldwell or Silver Creek. This post-office was in "Grandma Chambers" (Lot 8, Con 2, E. Caledon) own house. She was a remarkable character. She never had any money, but she always had plenty to eat in her pantry. She had stores of vegetables, meat, bread, etc. and anyone who was poor or hungry or sick, could always go to Grandma Chambers, and be sure of help. A real "Lady Bountiful", yet with scarcely a penny to bless herself with. This was apparently all there was at Caldwell, just her house, but it must have been a haven of refuge for many a soul in those days.

was this the same family as Joseph Chambers who kept the hotel at Mono Mills?

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Caldwell Caledon

Ye

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Matson. 40464 Notes
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Many a hard time did those early forebears of ours endure. Once a pair of twin boys arrived at a home near Grandmother Wilson's, near the Horseshoe Curve in Caledon, She cut up a pair of blankets to make clothing for these boys, for they had neither clothes nor covers. They grew up to become fine men and both became priests of the Roman Catholic church.

Matson.

__Wilson's Church__ (2nd Note.) When no more services were held in a church, the property went back to the original owners, so when this happened in the case of Wilson's church, Robert Wilson took the building into his barnyard and turned it into a pig-pen. It is probably there now(Lot 6, Con. 3. Caledon E.) When they last saw it, the plaster was still on it, the windows were still in it, but the beautiful white floor had lost its one time spotlessness.

Caledon
ver Creek

Matson.

There is an interesting old heirloom of our family's in Brampton, belonging to my uncle. It is an old teapot that came over with my great-grandmother from the old country, and has been handed down as a precious possession.

Irwin.

Notes:
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The grandfather of W. A. Irwin, clerk of Albion, settled in Mono Mills, and although on the other side of the boundary, still the history of Mono Mills belongs to Albion. This grandfather, named Alexander Irwin came from Ireland, and settled ~~in~~ here about 1818, being one of the first settlers. His grandmother came from Co. Antrim, Ireland.

Cardwell: This was a little voting constituency that for some time sent its own representative up to the Dominion parliment. It was not a county, but had a member nevertheless. (Mr. McLaughlin said he knew all about this and about Mickey McLaughlin, so if we have not enough information about this he can probably supply it, if not Mr. Irwin knows all about it.) Robert Johnson was the last man to represent Cardwell. Mickey McLaughlin was the first magistrate in this section. (Mono Mills)

Mono Mills. This village is right on the boundary in one of the most beautiful sections of the township. The view looking down on the mills, from above the town in Adjala township, is one of the finest to be seen in this section, also the mill pond above this mill is well worth photographing for its beauty.

2.

Irwin. 40466 Notes:
17 Sept. 1932

ost
rominent
er. men
of the
district.
the church
not in use

The old Presbyterian church, where some Peel county men, including the Rev. Alexander Lewis, who had such an important part in the history of this section, lie buried, is a very beautiful old building of stone, now disused.

Mono Mills was one of the first places where justiwe was dispensed. There were five hotels there at one time. Very early there was a Catholic church there, and the cemetery is still there, though the church is now gone. [illegible] This church was established by the McLaughlins.

Mono Mills

John Kidd kept a hotel for a great many years here. He became a very wealthy man, and was greatly looked up to. He loaned money to his poorer neighbours and held considerbale power by reason of his money. He [illegible] acquired considerable land, had several boys, lived to be around 90, and at the age of 85 married a second wife, a girl of 16. Before he died he had a vault built and a monument erected, and left money and instructions to his young wife as to how he was to be entombed. This vault with its iron door is a picturesque sight. Within lies the body of old John Kidd, in a lead coffin, with a glass lid, through which one may look, if one desires, on the old man. This is a conspicuous sight, coming as it does just at a turn in the road.

Irwin.

3,

40467

Notes:
17 Sept. 1932.

Harkies family.

The Harkies family were early pioneers, and had a saw-mill, which can still be seen, and the old dam is there yet. There were two of them, James and John Harkies, the latter being a brother-in-law of John Kidd.

Irwin.

Mono Mills was the first post-office in Peel County, according to Mr. Irwin. The 4th Division Court met at Mono Mills, but no Division Court ever met at Caledon E.

Mono Mills used to have a large waggon-makers shop, now moved to Brantford, where it has become the Canada Carriage Factory. In 1819 there was a grist mill there and store, and in 1837 the post-office was established.

Old McManus was a famous character in this section. His old home where he dispensed justice to all and sundry in this locality, is across the boundary line, but his story is part of Peel's, as he did more court work for Peel than for the county in which he lived. (He was a character, and if we haven't his history we must get it. Mr. Nichol of Mono Mills can probably give it to us. Mr. McLaughlin may know all about

4.

Irwin.

Notes:
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him.) They say teams would be lined up all down the road from his home far into Peel, waiting for him to try their cases, or dispense advice. The minute there was a fight it was a race to see who could get to McManus. He would have a couple of fighters lined up before him, with power to levy any fine. He usually fined them each a dollar, but he always whatever the circumstances made them shake hands.. He has on his monument Ex-M.P.P.

After leaving Palgrave and passing the mill, the first house on the right, E½ lot 28, Con 6. is the Bible farm, apparently not very old settlers. On the next farm, the Grogan place is the oldest house in this section. Thomas Grogan, who bought this farm in 1848 from Wm. Wray, who had the crown grant, went away to the States and vanished, never came back , so his son Patrick really just squatted on it. (There is some history of the Grogan family elsewhere in these notes.) This is Lot 29, COn. 6. On lot 31, Con. 7. is a Welshman, named Lloyd, who has rather a picturesque place, called by the neighbourhood "The Western Farm," because they think it is like the homesteads in the West. At the end of this road on the township line is a corner of land that belongs to nobody, called the Sailor's Home. The road on this township line, called the Orangeville

Irwin.

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road was only opened 35 years ago, and previous to this all traffic went up through Ballycroy. to the south of this road between Ballycroy and Mono ~~Mt~~ Mills the section ~~is known as Irish Town,~~ being practically all settled by the Irish.

Jo Grogan., Albion

Coolihans Corner's, Lot 36, Con. 4. This was a place of great revelry in the old days. The hotel here was called Coolihans,"The New Found Out."

"And if you would listen,
It would make your eyes glisten,
The rows and the ructions
At Coolihan's ball."

Jim Shinneman (?) an old Indian used to ply the fiddle for the dances. He always rolled his fiddle up in a shawl and called it his "goose". Mr. Dan Sullivan has a picture of this old time fiddler and his fiddle. There was much more sociability in those days than now. You would have a terrific fight tonight with a man and tomorrow be drinking together, the best of friends. If another fellow got a little more whiskey inside him than you had, it was necessary to take it out of him with your fists. Apparently they fought for the fun of it, it seemed to be a diversion, and not because of any ill will toward each other.

Dances at Peter Small's, Ballycroy. George Lowbar

6

Jas. Grogan. Albion. **40470** Notes.
18 Sept. '32.

Dances at Peter Small's, Ballycroy.

To these famous dances all of the northern part of Albion and Caledon, and from places much farther away people came. A famous fiddler, George Lowbar, a part negro, a mulatto, would play for these. All the men worked hard to earn enough to buy a ticket for the balls at Peter Smalls . They had to chop 8 cords of wood to get to the ball, paying $1.50 for a ticket and 50¢ for a game of Forty-five. The tables were piled with food and you could go in any time and help yourself. Since they danced all night and often all the next day, this bountiful provender came in very handy. People often came forty-five miles to these balls.

probably Lot 39, Con 2.

Wrights Corners, also on twp. line. Used to be a hotel half a dozen residences, shoemakers shop, store, nothing now. It is right on the boudary line, and there is an old log house just over in Dufferin.

Rev. Alexander Lewis, Presbyterian minister, Mono Mills who settled on the W ½ of Lot 38, Con. 1. in 1847, was a great figure in the early days. He lies buried in

Matson fmly

Irwin. 7.

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the cemetery of the Mono Mills Presbyterian Church just over the boundary line. On the monument are the words.

Le

Rev. Alexander Lewis, died 12th May 1878, aged 90 years, born in Ahorey, Co. Armagh, Ireland. Margaret Tate, his wife, died Jan. 3rd, 1866, aged 74 years, born in Ballereagh, Co. Armagh, Ireland.

A number of interesting old hotels still left in Mono Mills. The old Cardwell Hotel, now in ruins, owned by the McLaughlins, the Old Royal Hotel, and Dan's.

Le

Jack Nichol of Mono Mills was the first man to grow ginseng, and knows more about it than anyone else.

ilitary

List of names on the soldiers monument at Mono Mills.

1914-1918

Joseph Samuel Halbert
Wm. James Welwood
Samuel Joseph Jackson
G. Chester Crozier
Henry Wm. Hickey
Reginald Frank Maples
Henry Burgess

E. Scott Scarlett
Charles Lillie
John Jas. Proctor
Island Belwood Fish
Chas. Trevelyan Constan

Matson fmly.

40472

Pioneer Days.

Mr. Matson's great-grandmother once found that she had no flint, or the wrong kind, and could not make a fire. Since it was very dangerous to be without a fire at night, on account of the wolves, she walked a long distance through the woods and borrowed a coal, carrying it carefully home in a covered pot, to light her fire again.